(b) if so, when and the salient features of this reactor and the cost involved in the project;

(c) howfar it is expected to increase the production, per year, of middle distillates like kerosene and diesel; and

(d) whether there is any plan to set-up similar hydro cracker plants at other refineries, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (d) The projects is expected to be commissioned during early 1993 at an approximate cost of Rs. 757.24 Crores. The basic feature of this process is that relatively larger quantities of middle distillates like kerosene, Diesel etc. can be obtained as compared to other processess. The refineries being set up at Mangalore, Assam and Karnal will also include hydro cracker processing.

Tender for Multi-Purpose support Vessels (MSVs)

2459. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the ONGC has ignored the advice of its own experts in regard to the evaluation of a tender for Multi-purpose Support Vessels (MSVs) as reported in the Times of India of 24th October, 1992;

(b) whether the matter is likely to be reviewed ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. After consideration of the recommendations of the regional authorities, ONGC has given an equal opportunity to all bidders to submit best reduced prices.

Setting up of HBJ Pipeline from Bombay High to U. P. (Jagdishpur)

2460. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAV RAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) What is the total cost required to set up HBJ Pipline from Bombay High to Uttar Pradesh (Jagdishpur);

(b) whether it is a fact that due to this impractical pipeline cost of gas was considerably increased;

(c) what is the total loss per annum due to flaring up of gas; and

(d) whether Government propose to open a second gas terminal at Usar in Bombay for the utilisation of gas ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Rs. 1750 crores approximately.

(b) There was no increase in the basic price of gas on account of the pipeline; a transportation charge is however levied.

(c) Currently, approximately 4.4 MMSCMD of gas valued at about Rs. 50 lakhs per day is being flared.

(d) Government has approved, in principle, the concept of a gas pipeline from the Western Offshore to the Southern region from a suitable landfall point on the Western Coast.

Setting up of Two Oil Refinery Projects at Sikka Nagar and Jamnagar in Gujarat

2461. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have approved a ten thousand crore rupees project submitted by the Gujarat Government for setting up of two oil refineries at Sikka Nagar and Jamnaagr in Gujarat;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these two refinery projects are likely to be commissioned by two private sector enterprises, if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the estimated production and employment generation in each of these projects; and

(d) what is the time schedule fixed for commissioning these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) Two crude oil and one lube refinery